

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

GENERAL NOTES.

A NEW NAME FOR *TANAGRA SCLATERI* BERLEPSCH.

Dr. C. W. Richmond (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 35, No. 1656, Dec. 16, 1908, 644) has shown that *Tanagra* Linnæus can not be used for the birds that have usually been placed in this genus, but that *Thraupis* Boie will have to be used. He fixes the type of *Tanagra* upon *Fringilla violacea* Linn., therefore *Tanagra sclateri* Berlepsch (Ibis, 1880, 112) becomes untenable on account of *Tanagra sclateri* (*Euphonia sclateri* Sundevall, Oefv. Vet. Ak. Förh. Stockh., 1869, 596), and the bird described by von Berlepsch under the above name may be called **Thraupis episcopus nesophilus**.
—J. H. Riley.

THE NAMES OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOATS.

The specific name *montanus*, applied to the Rocky Mountain Goat (*Ovis montanus* Ord, 1815), is preoccupied by *Ovis montana* Schreber, Die Säugthiere, plate 294 D, published, according to Sherborn (P. Z. S., 1891, p. 587), in 1804; and by *Ovis montana* Tiedemann, Zoologie, I, p. 404, 1808, both synonyms of *Ovis canadensis* Shaw and *Ovis cervina* Desmarest, 1804. The earliest available name for the Mountain Goat is *Rupicapra americana* Blainville, 1816. Though described from "North America," it may properly be restricted to the first recognized form, long known as *Oreamnos montanus*, inhabiting the Cascade Mountains, and the nearby ranges. Blainville, in his preliminary arrangement of the ungulates, divided his comprehensive genus *Cerophorus* into what he called sub-genera, of which *Rupicapra*, with three species, including "*A. americana*"* is one; but in his diagnoses of new species which follows he first characterized the goat under the combination *Rupicapra americana*.

The name applied to one of the two subspecies of *Oreamnos montanus* described by Dr. J. A. Allen in 1904, *O. m. columbianus* (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., XX, p. 20), is preoccupied by the *Capra columbiana* of Desmoulins, 1823, a synonym of *Ovis montanus* Ord. On my calling Dr.

* Not *Antelope americana* Ord, as stated by Palmer, Index Gen. Mamm., p. 613; but a *nomen nudum*, really referring to the animal he later diagnosed under the name *Rupicapra americana*, the Rocky Mountain Goat.

Allen's attention to this fact, he has suggested that I rename his race, and I therefore propose for it the name *Oreamnos americanus columbiæ*. The Rocky Mountain Goats, with the exception of *Oreamnos kennedeyi* Elliot, will stand then as follows:

Oreamnos americanus americanus (Blainville).

1815. *Oris montanus* ORD, Guthrie's geogr., 2d Amer. ed., II, p. 292 (not *Ovis montana* SCHREBER 1804; not *Ovis montana* TIEDEMANN 1808).
1816. *R[upicapra] americana* BLAINVILLE, Bull. sci. soc. philom. Paris, p. 80. (North America.)
1817. *Mazama dorsata* RAFINESQUE, Amer. monthly mag., II, p. 44 (new name for *Oris montanus* ORD).
1817. *Mazama sericca* RAFINESQUE, Amer. monthly mag., II, p. 44 (new name for *Rupicapra americana* BLAINVILLE).
1822. *Antilope lanigera* SMITH, Trans. Linn. soc., XIII, p. 38 (new name for *Rupicapra americana* BLAINVILLE).
1823. *Capra columbiana* DESMOLINS, Diet. class. hist. nat., III, p. 580 (new name for *Oris montanus* ORD).

Oreamnos americanus missoulæ Allen.

1904. *Oreamnos montanus missoulæ* ALLEN, Bull. Amer. mus. nat. hist., XX, p. 20. (Missoula, Montana.)

Oreamnos americanus columbiæ new name.

1904. *Oreamnos montanus columbianus* ALLEN, Bull. Amer. mus. nat. hist., XX, p. 20 (Shesley Mountains, northern British Columbia; not *Capra columbiana* DESMOLINS 1823).

As we must date *Ovis montana* from Schreber 1804, instead of from Cuvier 1817, the name requires consideration, with *canadensis* and *cervina*, in the next contribution to the nomenclature of the Rocky Mountain Sheep.

—N. Hollister.

THE TYPE LOCALITY OF *PROECHIMYS STEEREI* GOLDMAN.

When the original description of *Proechimys steerei* Goldman was published* the type locality was given as "Rio Purus, a southern tributary of the Amazon, in northwestern Brazil," this being at that time the only data available in regard to the specimens on which the species is based. A letter from Dr. J. B. Steere, the collector, bearing date of January 8, 1912, contains the additional information that the specimens all came from Hytánahan, a small village of rubber gatherers, on the north side of the Rio Purus, in the upper part of its course. The species seemed to be abundant.

—E. A. Goldman.

* Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XXIV, pp. 238-239, Nov. 28, 1911.